

## DEFINITIONS

(from Section 202 of the International Fire Code, October 2010)

**OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION.** For the purposes of this code, certain occupancies are defined as follows:

**[B] Assembly Group A.** Assembly Group A occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for the gathering of *persons* for purposes such as civic, social or religious functions; recreation, food or drink consumption; or awaiting transportation.

### Exceptions:

1. A building or tenant space used for assembly purposes with an *occupant load* of less than 50 *persons* shall be classified as a Group B occupancy.
2. A room or space used for assembly purposes with an *occupant load* of less than 50 *persons* and accessory to another occupancy shall be classified as a Group B occupancy or as part of that occupancy.
3. A room or space used for assembly purposes that is less than 750 square feet (70 m<sup>2</sup>) in area and accessory to another occupancy shall be classified as a Group B occupancy or as part of that occupancy.
4. Assembly areas that are accessory to Group E occupancies are not considered separate occupancies except when applying the assembly occupancy requirements of Chapter 11 of the *International Building Code*.
5. Accessory religious educational rooms and religious auditoriums with *occupant loads* of less than 100 are not considered separate occupancies.

Assembly occupancies shall include the following:

**A-1** Assembly uses, usually with fixed seating, intended for the production and viewing of performing arts or motion pictures including, but not limited to:

Motion picture theaters  
Symphony and concert halls  
Television and radio studios admitting an audience  
Theaters

**A-2** Assembly uses intended for food and/or drink consumption including, but not limited to:

Banquet halls  
Night clubs  
Restaurants  
Taverns and bars

**A-3** Assembly uses intended for worship, recreation or amusement and other assembly uses not classified elsewhere in Group A, including, but not limited to:

Amusement arcades  
Art galleries  
Bowling alleys  
Community halls  
Courtrooms  
Dance halls (not including food or drink consumption)  
Exhibition halls  
Funeral parlors  
Gymnasiums (without spectator seating)  
Indoor swimming pools (without spectator seating)  
Indoor tennis courts (without spectator seating)  
Lecture halls  
Libraries  
Museums  
Places of religious worship  
Pool and billiard parlors  
Waiting areas in transportation terminals

**A-4** Assembly uses intended for viewing of indoor sporting events and activities with spectator seating including, but not limited to:

Arenas  
Skating rinks  
Swimming pools  
Tennis courts

**A-5** Assembly uses intended for participation in or viewing outdoor activities including, but not limited to:

Amusement park structures  
Bleachers  
Grandstands  
Stadiums